

No. 1 of 1925

26

STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—REPORT ON AGRICULTURAL, ETC., PRODUCTION, SEASON 1923-24.

THE figures in parentheses refer to the previous year unless otherwise stated.

AREA UNDER CULTIVATION.

*Total Area.*—5,457,592 (5,316,670) acres, equal to 10.40 (10.36) acres per inhabitant. The area was distributed as follows:—Crops, 3,562,551 (3,575,452) acres; permanent sown grasses, 30,800 (22,278) acres; fallow, 1,864,241 (1,718,940) acres.

*Distribution of Cropped Area.*—Total, 3,562,551 (3,575,452) acres, decrease, 12,901 acres. The area under cereals of all kinds for grain, hay, and fodder was 3,465,759 (3,481,252) acres; peas and beans, 4,810 (5,311) acres; orchards, 33,473 (33,003) acres; vineyards, 49,303 (46,750) acres; root crops, market gardens, &c., 8,487 (8,737) acres; other crops, 520 (399) acres.

*Wheat.*—2,814,027 (2,830,591) acres, decrease 16,564 acres. For grain, 2,418,415 (2,453,086) acres; hay, 381,962 (359,834) acres; green forage, 13,650 (17,671) acres.

*Barley.*—190,581 (201,591) acres, decrease 29,010 acres. Of the grain area 166,824 (197,619) acres were returned as malting, and 17,462 (17,664) acres as cape and other.

*Oats.*—415,068 (393,462) acres, increase 21,606 acres. For grain, 176,299 (173,716) acres; hay, 234,899 (208,769) acres.

*Orchards.*—33,473 (33,003) acres, increase 478 acres, making an increase of 3,388 acres in five years. Trees of bearing age account for 26,157 acres.

*Vineyards.*—49,303 (46,750) acres, increase 2,553 acres, making an increase of 18,280 acres in five years. The areas were classified as for wine, 28,991 (28,957) acres; drying, 19,499 (4,553) acres; table, 813 (840) acres; 38,455 acres were shown as being of bearing age.

*Miscellaneous.*—Market gardens, 1,448 (1,438) acres; pumpkins and melons, 286 (220) acres; tomatoes, 669 (498) acres; potatoes, 5,239 (5,749) acres; onions, 289 (364) acres; other root crops, 556 (468) acres; nurseries, 169 (185) acres; chicory, 124 (105) acres; cotton, 9 (32) acres; grass seed, 405 (62) acres.

SUMMARY OF CROPPED AND FALLOWED AREAS IN DIVISIONS.

Division.	Area Under Crop.		Land in Fallow.	
	1922-23.	1923-24.	1922-23.	1923-24.
Central .....	Acres. 961,925	Acres. 922,927	Acres. 524,916	Acres. 534,042
Lower North .....	927,757	966,370	657,796	671,697
Upper North .....	271,789	266,866	193,801	193,810
South-Eastern .....	136,415	101,433	14,948	21,260
Western .....	604,129	609,301	162,100	176,430
Murray Mallee.....	673,437	695,654	165,379	267,002
Total State ..	3,575,452	3,562,551	1,718,940	1,864,241
Increase ....	—	— 12,901	—	145+301

PRODUCTION.

*Wheat.*—34,551,955 (28,784,767) bushels, averaging per acre, 14.29 (11.73) bushels, an increase of 5,767,188 bush. on the previous year, and 7,047,440 bush. above the mean of the five years ending 1923-24.

*Barley.*—3,251,885 (3,697,849) bushels, averaging per acre 17.65 (17.18) bushels, decrease, 445,964 bush.; malting barley represented 2,986,617 (3,450,120) bushels of the total.

*Oats.*—2,157,938 (1,681,783) bushels, averaging per acre 12.24 (9.68) bushels, increase 476,155 bush.

*Hay (all kinds).*—781,768 (697,189) tons, averaging per acre 1.24 (1.21) tons, increase 84,579 tons; wheaten hay yielded 500,572 (467,514) tons, and caten 261,581 (214,005) tons.

*Peas and Beans.*—64,847 (68,054) bushels, averaging per acre 13.48 (12.81) bushels, decrease 3,207 bush.

*Orchard.*—Estimated value of production £819,222 (£623,756), averaging per acre of bearing age £31 6s. 5d. (£24 8s. 6d.), the five years average being £633,797 and £26 6s. 6d. Apple yield 1,143,274 (384,375) bushels, or 310,402 bush. above the previous record of 832,872 bushels in 1915-16.

*Vineyards.*—Estimated value of production £1,448,706 (£1,260,378), £30.4.6 averaging per acre of bearing age £27 12s. 5d. (£37 10s. 4d.), the five years average being £1,259,707 and £39 7s. 11d. Wine made, £37 12s. 5d (£1,202,433). The yield was utilised as follows:—For winemaking, 68,374 (55,047) tons; drying, 40,865 (29,340) tons; and table and export, 1,056 tons; Oversea exports of vineyard production.—Currants, 67,595 (64,432) cwt., value £188,112 (£199,180); raisins, 54,647 (15,755) cwt., £184,049 (£72,723); wines, 753,495 (586,880) gallons, £133,420 (£109,378), making a total value of £505,581 (£381,281). In addition, wine was exported to other States as follows:—1,701,062 (1,689,378) gallons, value £494,666 (£526,053), making the grand total exports of wine, 2,454,557 (2,276,258) gallons, £628,086 (£635,431).

*Dried Fruits.*—Apricots, 6,851 (12,456) cwt.; apples, 1,077 (1,203) cwt.; pears, 1,827 (1,186) cwt.; peaches, 5,335 (7,796) cwt.; plums and prunes, 4,183 (3,743) cwt.; figs, 158 (168) cwt.; currants, 131,000 (96,807) cwt.; increase, 34,193 cwt., on the previous record in 1922-23; raisins—Sultanas, 82,838 (39,670) cwt.; other raisins, 42,168 (29,591) cwt.; total, 125,006 (69,261) cwt.; increase of 55,745 cwt. over the previous record in 1922-23.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Market gardens, £100,951 (£98,480); pumpkins and melons 1,894 (1,672) tons; tomatoes, 232,622 (155,091) bushels; potatoes, 21,327 (17,356) tons; onions, 2,314 (2,648) tons; other root crops, 4,050 (2,691) tons; nurseries, £39,995 (£42,490); chicory, 471 (334) tons; cotton, 3,613 (12,427) lbs.

VALUE OF PRODUCTION.

The value of all agricultural production for the season 1923-24, based on the mean seasonal metropolitan wholesale market prices, has been estimated at £1,442,476 compared with £13,145,908, the previous season. This represents an average of £27 10s. 5d. (£25 12s. 4d.) per head of population.

The valuation for the season 1923-24 compared with the previous season are grouped as follows:—

Cereals (wheat, barley, oats, &c.), £8,919,187 (£8,046,651); hay, green fodder, and straw, £2,800,539 (£2,757,271); orchards, £819,222 (£623,756); vineyards, £1,448,706 (£1,260,378); market gardens and root crops, £374,697 (£389,366); all other, £80,125 (£68,486).

The importance of the cereal and hay crops to the State is emphasised by the fact that they represent for the past five seasons an annual mean of well over 80 per cent. of the total value of crop production.

RIVER MURRAY SETTLEMENTS.

The areas under irrigated culture in the vicinity of the River Murray, in comparison with five years ago, is 27,866 (13,706) acres, an increase of 14,160 acres. The area is distributed as follows:—

Orchards, 6,111 (4,856) acres, increase 1,255 acres; vineyards, 16,716 (6,416) acres, increase 10,300 acres; lucerne, green forage, etc., 5,039 (2,434) acres, increase 2,605 acres. Trees of bearing age account for 4,324 acres, and vines of bearing age for 11,956 acres.

ARTIFICIAL MANURES USED.

Total quantity, 121,184 1/2 (114,158) tons, average per acre 80 8s. 87 60 (82.81) lbs., proportion manured to total crop area, 80 7s. 1/2 (86.37) per cent.

W. L. JOHNSTON, Government Statist.

Statistical Department, Adelaide, January 12th, 1925.

86.98

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION FOR SEASON 1923-24 IN COMPARISON WITH SEASON 1922-23, ALSO MEANS FOR QUINQUENNIALS  
ENDING 1918-19 AND 1923-24.

No. 1.—Area under Cultivation.

Crop.	Seasons.		†Increase.	Means of Quinquennium ending	
	1922-23.	1923-24.		1918-19.	1923-24.
Cereals—					
Wheat . . . . .	2,453,086	2,418,415	— 34,671	2,512,446	2,270,015
Barley—					
Malting . . . . .	197,619	166,824	— 30,795	76,702	165,437
Other. . . . .	17,664	17,462	— 202	19,469	20,649
Total Barley . . . . .	215,283	184,286	— 30,997	96,171	186,086
Oats. . . . .	173,716	176,299	2,583	137,217	166,864
Maize. . . . .	116	94	— 22	238	152
Rye . . . . .	241	116	— 125	1,363	355
Other Cereals . . . . .	—	—	—	47	—
Total Cereals . . . . .	2,842,442	2,779,210	— 63,232	2,747,482	2,623,472
Hay—					
Wheaten . . . . .	359,834	381,962	22,128	353,902	369,496
Oaten . . . . .	208,769	234,899	26,130	140,700	207,153
Lucerne. . . . .	4,973	7,270	2,297	2,888	4,498
Other. . . . .	4,234	7,136	2,902	11,999	4,865
Total Hay . . . . .	577,810	631,267	53,457	509,489	586,012
Green Forage—					
Wheaten . . . . .	17,671	13,650	— 4,021	16,021	24,714
Barley . . . . .	2,970	3,846	876	3,261	3,776
Oaten . . . . .	10,977	3,870	— 7,107	6,374	8,724
Lucerne. . . . .	26,397	30,815	4,418	14,529	23,505
Other. . . . .	2,985	3,101	116	3,937	3,522
Total Green Forage . . . . .	61,000	55,282	— 5,718	44,122	64,241
Pulse—					
Peas. . . . .	5,216	4,718	— 498	6,682	5,606
Beans . . . . .	95	92	— 3	57	66
Total Pulse. . . . .	5,311	4,810	— 501	6,739	5,672
Orchards—					
In bearing . . . . .	25,538	26,157	618	20,460	24,837
Not bearing . . . . .	7,465	7,316	— 149	7,797	7,314
Total Orchards . . . . .	33,003	33,473	469	28,257	32,150
Vineyards—					
Wine grapes . . . . .	28,070	28,991	921	19,732	26,826 26,148
Table grapes . . . . .	28,057	813	— 94	1,052	737
Drying grapes . . . . .	840	19,499	27	8,134	14,321 14,499
In bearing . . . . .	17,840	16,053	1,659	2,540	
Not bearing . . . . .	33,595	38,455	4,860	24,329	31,977
Total Vineyards . . . . .	13,155	10,848	— 2,307	4,589	9,407
Root Crops—					
Potatoes . . . . .	46,750	49,303	2,553	28,918	41,384
Onions . . . . .	5,749	5,239	— 510	4,831	5,002
Other root crops . . . . .	364	289	— 75	346	372
Total Root Crops . . . . .	468	556	88	323	424
Market gardens . . . . .	6,581	6,084	— 497	5,500	5,798
Tomatoes . . . . .					
Pumpkins and melons . . . . .	1,438	1,448	10	1,594	1,437
Nurseries . . . . .	498	669	171	303	487
All other crops . . . . .	220	286	66	256	275
GRAND TOTAL CROPPED AREA . . . . .	185	169	— 16	163	178
	214	550	337	31	213
Crops per head of population . . . . .	3,575,452	3,562,551	— 12,901	3,372,854	3,361,324
Sown grasses . . . . .	6.97	6.79	— 0.18	7.53	6.69
Fallow land . . . . .	22,278	30,800	8,522	24,440	21,376
GRAND TOTAL CULTIVATED . . . . .	1,718,940	1,864,241	145,301	1,453,071	1,659,952
Cultivation per head of population . . . . .	5,316,670	5,457,592	140,922	4,850,365	5,042,652
	10.36	10.40	0.04	10.83	10.03

† Minus sign (—) denotes decrease.

## No. 2.—Production of Principal Crops.

Chief Items.	Unit of Quantity.	Seasons		† Increase.	Means of Quinquennium ending		Average Per Acre.		
					1918-19.	1923-24.	1922-23.	1923-24.	
		1922-23.	1923-24.						
<b>Cereals—</b>									
Wheat .....	Bushel	28,784,767	34,551,955	5,767,188	27,007,303	27,504,515	11.73	14.29	
Barley—									
Malting .....	Bushel	3,450,120	2,986,617	-463,503	1,291,607	3,012,059	17.46	17.90	
Other .....	Bushel	247,729	265,268	17,539	297,950	312,645	14.02	15.19	
Total Barley .....	Bushel	3,697,849	3,251,885	-445,964	1,589,557	3,324,704	17.18	17.65	
Oats .....	Bushel	1,681,783	2,157,938	476,155	1,426,294	1,820,535	9.68	12.24	
Maize .....	Bushel	2,716	1,266	- 1,450	3,910	2,664	23.41	13.47	
Rye .....	Bushel	2,181	1,014	- 1,167	11,602	2,901	9.05	8.74	
<b>Hay—</b>									
Wheaten .....	Ton	467,514	500,572	33,058	427,123	466,396	1.30	1.31	
Oaten .....	Ton	214,005	261,581	47,576	150,750	224,271	1.03	1.11	
Lucerne .....	Ton	10,685	11,908	1,223	5,647	9,225	2.15	1.64	
Other .....	Ton	4,985	7,707	2,722	12,932	5,540	1.18	1.08	
Total Hay .....	Ton	697,189	781,768	84,579	596,452	705,432	1.21	1.24	
<b>Green Forage (cut and fed off) .....</b>									
Peas and Beans .....	Value £	131,041	143,166	12,125	76,045	120,678	—	—	
Straw .....	Bushel	68,054	64,847	- 3,207	69,955	74,760	12.81	13.48	
Potatoes .....	Ton	12,167	9,453	- 2,714	16,854	11,606	—	—	
Onions .....	Ton	17,356	21,327	3,971	15,181	17,069	3.02	4.07	
Market Gardens .....	Value £	98,480	100,951	2,471	73,364	93,249	68.48	69.72	
Tomatoes .....	Bushel	155,091	232,622	77,531	80,888	144,015	311.43	347.72	
Pumpkins and Melons .....	Ton	1,672	1,894	222	1,801	2,104	7.60	6.62	
Nurseries .....	Value £	42,490	39,995	- 2,495	15,934	33,405	229.68	233.66	
<b>Vineyards—</b>									
Total grape production .....	Ton	85,701	110,295	24,594	42,641	78,038	* 2.55	* 2.87	
Wine made .....	Gallon	8,653,579	10,756,538	2,102,959	4,008,683	7,751,942	—	—	
Currents .....	Cwt.	96,807	131,000	34,193	50,639	90,010	—	—	
Raisins { Sultanas .....	Cwt.	39,670	82,838	43,168	25,553	45,547	—	—	
Other .....	Cwt.	29,591	42,168	12,577	14,989	24,130	—	—	
Table grapes .....	Ton	1,314	1,056	- 258	1,276	1,096	—	—	
<b>Miscellaneous—</b>									
Wattle bark .....	Ton	5,645	7,081	1,436	4,978	6,481	—	—	
Gums—Yacca, &c. .....	Ton	669	377	- 292	73	1,140	—	—	
<b>Orchards—</b>									
Almonds .....	Cwt.	8,638	9,592	954	4,229	7,032	—	—	
Walnuts and other nuts .....	Cwt.	545	499	- 46	401	495	—	—	
Apples .....	Bushel	384,375	1,143,274	758,899	391,057	649,498	—	—	
Apricots .....	Bushel	268,152	178,476	- 89,676	137,597	196,683	—	—	
Cherries .....	Bushel	41,714	38,204	- 3,510	27,236	38,872	—	—	
Figs .....	Bushel	18,714	19,322	608	12,965	17,589	—	—	
Olives .....	Cwt.	4,905	15,285	10,380	6,119	11,211	—	—	
Peaches and nectarines .....	Bushel	231,926	182,256	- 49,670	120,022	197,611	—	—	
Peanuts .....	Cwt.	—	3	3	29	2	—	—	
Pears .....	Bushel	125,353	199,067	73,714	106,786	158,371	—	—	
Plums and prunes .....	Bushel	123,211	137,262	14,051	87,888	127,773	—	—	
Quinces .....	Bushel	37,623	38,112	489	33,641	37,993	—	—	
Oranges .....	Bushel	411,508	345,408	- 66,100	157,255	334,328	—	—	
Lemons .....	Bushel	53,483	51,154	- 2,329	32,639	50,381	—	—	
Other citrus fruits .....	Bushel	2,422	2,378	- 44	455	1,727	—	—	
Raspberries .....	Cwt.	2,211	2,320	109	2,182	2,055	—	—	
Strawberries .....	Cwt.	1,305	2,154	849	1,573	1,563	—	—	
Other bush and berry fruits .....	Cwt.	1,657	2,026	369	2,351	2,073	—	—	
Unspecified .....	Bushel	3,837	4,086	249	2,362	3,856	—	—	

\* Bearing age.

† Minus sign (—) denotes decrease.